



**RHODE ISLAND
COLLEGE**

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

WELFARE REFORM EVALUATION PROJECT

*Five year longitudinal study of welfare reform
and Rhode Island's beneficiaries*

Working paper: Education and Training Outcomes

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3/29/03

Overview of the findings at the 5-year mark:

A representative sample of 638 Family Independence Program (FIP) beneficiaries are included in this five-year longitudinal study about the impact of welfare reform on FIP beneficiaries in Rhode Island. Data collection for this study began in February 1997 and ended in October 2002. All findings cited below are statistically significant ($p < 0.05$).

- 70% of participants who had received vocational training or post secondary education as part of their FIP Plan were no longer receiving FIP at the 5-year mark. In contrast 53% of those who had not received this type of training as part of their FIP Plan were no longer receiving FIP at the 5-year mark.
- Participants who had received vocational training or post secondary education as part of their FIP Plan were significantly more likely to have a higher average hourly wage (\$11.37) in comparison to those who had not received this type of training as part of their FIP Plan (\$8.66).
- Participants without this type of education or training were significantly more likely to have remained on FIP during the entire five year period under study (22.9%) in comparison to those with this training (13.9%).
- Participants without this type of education or training were significantly more likely to have cycled off and back on FIP during the 5 year study period and were back on FIP at the end of the 5 year period (23.9%) in comparison to those who had received this type of training as part of their FIP Plan (16.5%).

Participation in skill, vocational or post secondary education or training (as part of FIP Plan) in comparison to FIP status at 5 years after baseline

		Participation in Skill/vocational or post secondary education as part of FIP plan		Total
		No	Yes	
FIP status at 5 years after baseline	Stayer: Remained on FIP throughout study	112 22.9%	11 13.9%	123
	Cycler: On FIP at final interview; Off FIP at least once during past 5 years	117 23.9%	13 16.5%	130
	Leaver: Off FIP at final interview; may have cycled off & on FIP during past 5 years	261 53.3%	55 69.6%	316
Total		490 100.0% 86.1%	79 100.0% 13.9%	569 100.0%

Chi Square=7.428, p<0.024

RIC welfare reform research reports can be accessed at:
http://www.ric.edu/ri_welfare_eval/index.html